



Occupational therapists help people across the lifespan participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations).

Admissions

Licensed occupational therapists and students enrolled in the Tufts University Graduate Degree Programs in Occupational Therapy are invited to enroll in the Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM) Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics. A baccalaureate degree is required for admission.

Tufts Occupational Therapy students may enroll in the TUSM Certificate program concurrently with their occupational therapy studies and all applicable credits earned at TUSM may be applied toward the Occupational Therapy Master's degree.

Courses are offered at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) campus in Medford, Massachusetts and at the School of Medicine (TUSM) campus in Boston, Massachusetts.

For further information and an application contact: TUSM, Public Health & Professional Degree Programs, Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics at 617-636-0935 or med-phpd@tufts.edu.

About Us

Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics

The Tufts University School of Medicine Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics is designed for health care professionals looking to fill a gap in knowledge on pain management. Students enrolled in the Certificate program join students enrolled in the TUSM Master of Science in Pain Research, Education and Policy Program (MS-PREP), including physicians, nurses, health educators and advocates, hospice and palliative care providers, pharmacists, physical therapists, researchers and other health professionals.

One certificate program track is designed especially for occupational therapists and Master's level students of occupational therapy (OT-PREP). Other certificate tracks offered are in Research, Education, and Policy (C-PREP).

Tufts University School of Medicine

Public Health & Professional Degree Programs
Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics

136 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111
617.636.0935

med-phpd@tufts.edu
www.tufts.edu/med/prep

Tufts Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Graduate Degree Programs
in Occupational Therapy

26 Winthrop Street
Medford, MA 02155
617.627.5720

sharan.schwartzberg@tufts.edu
www.ase.tufts.edu/bsot

Tufts University
School of Medicine
*Public Health & Professional
Degree Programs*

Tufts University
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Degree Programs in Occupational Therapy

**Certificate of
Advanced Study in
Pain Topics for
Occupational Therapists
(OT-PREP)**



CURRICULUM

The Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics in Occupational Therapy (OT—PREP) mirrors the TUSM graduate program in Pain Research, Education & Policy. Both programs are built on the premise that pain is a biopsychosocial phenomenon and as such, its management ought to be influenced by a variety of factors ranging from neuroanatomy to social and economic issues. Students are exposed to a dynamic and richly rewarding educational experience. All OT-PREP students complete a total of 5 credit hours to earn the TUSM certificate.

CORE COURSES

The following two GSAS Occupational Therapy courses are required for completion of the OT-PREP Certificate Program:

OTS 293, 294: Special Topics (1 credit)—Students work with an Occupational Therapy faculty advisor to customize this 1.0 credit course to meet agreed upon pain study outcomes.

OTS 234, 235: Practicum Course (1 credit)—Students work with Occupational Therapy faculty and PREP faculty to ensure that this required clinical course has a specific clinical pain perspective and that the clinical portion is pain-centric.

The following three TUSM PREP courses are required of current students for completion of the OT-PREP Certificate Program:

PREP 230: Neuroanatomy, Neurochemistry and Pharmacology of Pain (1 credit)

PREP 232: Ethical and Sociocultural Aspects of Pain (1 credit) OR PREP Elective/s with OT Advisor consent (1 credit)

PREP 234: Introduction to Clinical Pain Problems (1 credit)

Students may apply all credits earned in the Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics toward matriculation in the Master of Science in Pain Research, Education and Policy program should they decide to continue their pain studies. A total of 11 credits are required for the full Master of Science in Pain Research, Education and Policy.



Carol Sarafconn
Practicing OT, Home Care & Hospice

“Persistent pain negatively impacts every area of occupation; and yet if one can engage in a meaningful occupation it can serve as a powerful distraction from pain. It is this fascinating interplay between pain and occupation that prompted me to enroll in the Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics in Occupational Therapy (OT-PREP) at Tufts. I am an occupational therapist working for a home health and hospice agency. My deepening understanding of pain has improved my ability to treat patients with chronic pain. I am better prepared to help patients cope with and learn to manage their pain. I have become the “go-to” clinician in my agency on pain topics and provide education on current evidence based practice as it relates to pain. I encourage occupational therapists to move their careers forward by taking this unique and engaging graduate program of study at Tufts.”



Dr. Sharan L. Schwartzberg
Professor of Occupational Therapy

“Occupational therapy practitioners work with complex physical, social, emotional, and cognitive concerns of individuals and populations. One way or another pain invariably affects social participation in daily activities. I cannot imagine any setting where occupational therapists would not use pain education to both help their clients manage on a day to day basis and provide leadership to pain improvement initiatives.”

**Improving the world
of pain...
one student at a time.**